H

N

T

MINUTES

OF THE

Oxford Baptist Association

1918

Held with the Big Springs Church, September 3, 4, 1918

Next Place of Meeting, Batesville Baptist Church, Batesville, Mississippi.

TIME—Tuesday after 1st Sunday in Sept., 1919.

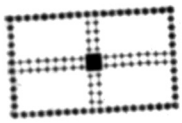
OFFICERS: W. I. Hargis, Moderator, University, Miss.; R. S. Shuford, Clerk, Batesville, Miss.; J. W. Higginbotham, Treasurer, Taylor, Miss.

BANNER PRESS, PRINTERS
TYLERTOWN, MISS.

MINUTES

OF THE

Oxford Baptist Association 1918



Held with the Big Springs Church, September 3, 4 1918

Next Place of Meeting, Batesville Baptist Church, Batesville, Mississippi.

TIME—Tuesday after 1st Sunday in Sept., 1919.

OFFICERS: W.I.Hargis, Moderator, University, Miss.; R.S.Shuford, Clerk, Batesville, Miss.; J.W.Higginbotham, Treasurer, Taylor, Miss.

BANNER PRESS, PRINTERS
TYLERTOWN, MISS.

FIRST DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.
September 3rd, 1918.

Minutes of the Oxford Baptist Association of Mississippi, held with The Big Springs Church, six miles west Water Valley, September 3rd and 4th, 1918.

The Moderator, Brother Creekmore, called the Association to order at 11 o'clock. Opening prayer by Brother J. W. Lee. The Association went into permanent organization by electing Brother W. I. Hargis Moderator, Brother Higginbotham Treasurer and Brother Shuford, Clerk. The Moderator appointed on Committee on Digest of Letters Brother H. L. Johnson, B. B., and Brother McCollough.

The Association welcomed the following: Brother Lipsey, "Baptist Record," and Brother Gunter, Secretary Educational Commission; Brother Sumner, from Yellow Busha Association. Brother J. W. Lee made his report on attendance with Southern Baptist Convention, also State Convention held at Hazlehurst.

The following were appointed on the Finance Committee: W. E. Hudson, E. W. Barton, W. H. Barton.

The hour having arrived for the Associational Sermon, order of business was suspended and Brother H. L. Johnson preached from 2nd Chap. Phil, 16 verse. After preaching the Association took a recess for one hour and thirty minutes for dinner.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Prayer by Brother Dave Hoyle. Song, "Lord, Lift Me Up on Higher Ground." Brother J. R. G. Hewlett was welcomed into the Association as pastor from Water Valley Church. The following committee was appointed on W. M. U., to report to this Association: Brother Hewlett, Brother H. L. Johnson, Brother G. C. McElroy.

Report on Publication by Brother H. L. Johnson. Spoken to by Bros. Lipsey, Sumner, Metts, Lee, Given. Report adopted.

Report on Education by Brother J. W. Lee. Spoken to by Bro. Gunter. Report adopted.

Time to convene, 9 a. m., sun time. Adjourn 12. 1:30 p. m. adjourned at pleasure.

Report on Woman's Work by Bro. J. R. Sumner. Report adopted.

Report on Sunday School by Bro. W. D. Purvis. Report adopted.

Bro. H. L. Johnson moved that we adjourn until 9 a. m. sun time, Wednesday morning. Motion prevailed.

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

MORNING SESSION.

Opening prayer by Bro. J. Benj. Lawrence. Song, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus." Bro. Metts read 17 Chap. John. Song, "Just When I Need Thee." Bro. Sumner closed with prayer.

Moderator appointed Standing Committee.

Report on "Orphanage" read by Bro. Hoyle. Spoken to by Bro. Hoyle and Bro. Hargis. Report adopted.

The London Hill Church at Tula was received and welcomed into the Association. Mrs. J. R. Markette, Mrs. A. Ford.

Report on Temperance read by Bro. Shuford. Spoken to by Bros. Sumner, Lamb, Hoyle. Adopted.

The Association directed Bro. E. M. Taylor to turn over to Bro. Higginbotham, Treasurer, the money collected for trip to S. B. Convention last year, subject to disposition of the Association.

Report on "Missions" by W. I. Hargis. Spoken to by Bro. Benj. Lawrence. Report adopted.

The Association then recessed for dinner.

Bro. Higginbotham closed the morning session with prayer.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Prayer by Bro. Given. Song, "Glory to His Name." Patriotic song by Bro. J. C. Given.

Report on Sunday Schools by Bro. Purvis. Spoken to by Bro. Purvis and Bro. Sumner. Report adopted.

Report on Hospital by Bro. Hewlett. Spoken to by Bro. Hewlett, Sumner, Johnson, Vanderburg. Report adopted.

Request was made and so ordered to print in minutes "Articles of Faith."

Resolved, That the thanks of the Association be and the same are hereby tendered to the membership of Big Springs Church and its pastor and the people of this community, and especially the ladies, for its hospitable and generous manner in which the Association has been received and entertained during its present sitting. By L. B. Lamb. Adopted.

The Association then closed its session.

W. I. HARGIS, Moderator.
R. J. Shuford, Clerk.

REPORT ON PUBLICATION.

We think, act and teach as we learn.

We learn from the literature we read, and from teachers—these teachers true or false. So nothing can be more important to us than the literature we read and put in the hands of our children.

The truth only will make us free.

The Bible ought to be our great text-book, for it is God's will revealed to men about this life and the life to come. We also have an abundant supply of good books, papers and tracts on the subject taught in the Bible.

These help us to understand our duty to God, to self, and to all men.

The paper for Mississippi Baptists is the Baptist Record. We can not keep up with our work for the Master without reading it. These books and papers can be had from the Baptist Record office, Jackson, Miss.; the Sunday School Board S. B. C., Nashville, Tenn., and the Baptist Book Concern, Louisville, Ky.

Your committee think the Baptist Record ought to go into every Baptist home in our State.

Suitable Bibles and Testaments for every member in each home that can read, with other good books sent to each one and the subjects we wish to study.

H. L. JOHNSON.

Report adopted.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

God is revealed to us in his Holy Word as a trinity: Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Man was made in the image and likeness of God. This image and likeness is chiefly in man's trinity, viz.: spirit, soul (or mind) and body. Man's likeness to God was greatly spoiled by sin, though the image and likeness still exists imperfectly.

Jesus the second Adam came to overcome the effect of the sin of the first Adam. While here he (Jesus) did three things, viz.: (a) preached, (b) taught, and (c) healed. Matt 4:23. Thus meeting the needs of the spirit, mind and body. He said those who believed in Him would do the work He did. Jno. 14:12..

Since His work while present was the ministering to the spirit, mind and body, our work in His absence must be the same.

This work is done by (a) preaching the Gospel, (b) training the mind, and (c) healing the body. To do these efficiently there is need of training or education.

This report has to do only with the training or educating the mind. The reports on Missions and Hospitals will

deal with the other two.

Baptists have not been a whit behind others in either the doctrine or practice of education. They have believed in it and out of their belief have come many institutions of learning in every part of the world where Baptists exist.

Mississippi Baptists own and maintain three colleges, viz.: Mississippi College at Clinton for boys and young men only; the Woman's College at Hattiesburg for girls and young ladies only; Clark College at Newton for both sexes or coeducation.

Besides these, we have Blue Mountain College at Blue Mountain for young ladies. This college is not owned by the denomination like the three named above, yet in all intents and purposes it is a Baptist college, since its owners and teachers are Baptist educators of the highest order and type, and we commend it along with our own colleges.

In these colleges the mind of the student is trained under Christian influence and in a Christian atmosphere. We as Baptists or Christian citizens do not claim that textbooks can be taught better in these Christian colleges than in a State institution, but we do claim that a mind trained in a purely intellectual atmosphere can never be as potential for good as that same mind will be if trained by Christian men and women who feel it their duty to impress the mind of the student, spiritually and religiously as well as intellectually.

Education increases one's power for good or evil. The right kind of education is a great blessing. The wrong kind is a curse.

The German people are not lacking in education. They lead the world in education, but it is education under the wrong kind of educators and to the wrong ideals.

Their education is saturated with infidelity of the most insidious kind, both in religion and states craft; hence this cruel war with all its barbarous practices by the Germans.

It is the aim of Baptists to furnish such educational facilities as will make the highest and best type of Christian men and women in every walk of life.

Respectfully, J. W. LEE.

The report was adopted, and included therein was an important message and greeting from the Executive Committee of the Education Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention which follows:

IMPORTANT MESSAGE AND GREETING FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE EDUCATION COMMISSION OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION.

To the Oxford District Baptist Association:

Dear Friends—We are instructed by our committee to write you as follows:

The action of the Southern Baptist Convention and the W. M. U. at the last session in Hot Springs, Arkansas, is generally believed to be epoch-making in our Baptist Educational work.

We have at last realized that we are face to face with the necessity of sending more of our children to high school, and to college, or fail to do our part in furnishing leaders in church and state. The convention endorsed a program calling for 35,000 students in our own schools and $15,000,000 for proper equipment in the next five years. Only by co-operative effort can this be done.

In addition to reaching our goal of 21 standard colleges in the South we must give larger attention to our junior colleges and preparatory schools.

We have not furnished our quota of chaplains or Y. M. C. A. workers yet; already there is an alarming scarcity of pastors. We sadly need more trained workers, both in the pulpit and in the pew. For these we cannot depend on other than our Baptist schools.

President Wilson, Secretary of War Baker, and United States Commissioner Claxton, who are in position to know the war needs, urge that our schools and colleges be kept open and operating at full capacity in order that we may avoid the mistake made by England and France.

To the end that the home base may be strengthened and that righteousness and justice may be made first possible and then permanent in all the earth, your co-operation is desired to the extent of adopting the following as a part of your report on Christian Education.

1. We approve of the Southern Baptist Convention Five-Year Educational Program.

2. We pledge our co-operation and loyalty to the schools of our State Convention.

3. We urge Baptist parents to send their children to school in larger numbers, that we may furnish the necessary trained leaders in all war work, if the war must go on, and leaders in peace, when the war shall end.

4. We approve the plan of a debt-paying campaign in

our Southern States, where debts exist on Baptist school property. This campaign is to be had this fall in connection with the Liberty Loan Drive by a plan that meets the favor of those in charge of the war work.

Fraternally yours,

R. W. WEAVER, Chairman,
Nashville, Tenn.

J. W. CAMMACK, Secretary,
Richmond, Va.

WOMAN'S WORK IN A BAPTIST CHURCH AND IN THE BAPTIST DENOMINATION IN THE SOUTH

A Woman's Missionary Society in a Baptist church should aim to encourage and help every woman who is a member of that church:

1. To keep up daily systematic Bible study.
2. To pray for her church and its leaders, and its workers, and its members.
3. To pray for her Association, its officers, and its workers, and its leaders, and its members.
4. To pray for each church in her Association, and for all the members of all these churches, and for all the people who live in the territory covered by this Association.
5. To pray for the Baptist State Convention, and for its officers, and for its agencies, and for the churches, and all the people in its territory.
6. To pray for the Southern Baptist Convention, its officers, its agencies, its leaders, its workers, and its work.
7. To pray for all the people in all the world, that God may grant the opportunity to repent of sins, and believe in Him who died to save us from hell.
8. To encourage regular and proportionate contributing to the support of all departments of Christian activities, which are carried forward by these conventions and these associations.
9. To urge every member of the church, in which this Society is, to bear his or her part of the necessary expense of that church.

Many of our women have worked faithfully along these lines. Much remains to be done; for only ten societies reported to the Woman's Missionary Union of the Oxford Association last year. Twenty-four churches reported to the Oxford Association. We see from this that a fraction more than 41 per cent of the churches reporting to the Oxford Association reported societies in them. A very small per cent of the female members of our churches belong to

the societies where there are societies in the churches.

If any sister is interested in organizing a society in her church, she would do well to write to Miss M. M. Lackey, Jackson, Miss., for literature and information. This information will be furnished free to any one asking for it. If any of you are in need of personal help in order to organize, write to Mrs. M. B. Knox, Batesville, Miss.

Respectfully submitted,

J. R. SUMNER.

Report adopted.

COMMITTEE REPORT.

We, your Committee, to which a question concerning W. M. U. Work has been referred, beg to report as follows:

Resolved, That we hereby express our appreciation for the great work now being accomplished in the Kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, through the untiring efforts of the Woman's Missionary Union.

Resolved, That the pastors of this Association be earnestly requested to assist in and direct the work of the W. M. U. in such a way that the greatest harvest possible may be reaped for the glory of God.

Resolved, That a committee, consisting of the Associational Superintendent as Chairman, and the Presidents of the W. M. U. Societies in the Association be appointed to make a digest report of the W. M. U. work of the Association at each annual session of the Association.

Respectfully submitted,

J. R. G. HEWLETT,
H. L. JOHNSON,
G. C. McELROY.

Report adopted.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Every Baptist church should maintain a Sunday School. Many churches ought to keep up more than one school. Liberty Hill Church has two schools. There may be other churches in the Oxford Association that have more than one school. If so, this work is not known to your committee. There are twenty-three churches in the Oxford Association, sixteen of which have Sunday Schools. These schools consist of one hundred and sixty-five officers and teachers, and one thousand three hundred and seventy-eight pupils.

The object of each school should be to teach the sinner the way to Christ; and to teach the saved in Christ to do all things taught in God's Word.

Every Baptist should do all in his power to build up the Sunday School in the church of which he is a member.

Every church member ought to be a part of the Sunday School in his church. In this all should not seek to be teachers; but all should work together in harmony and strive to be a patient pupil of the great teacher, Jesus Christ.

Every teacher should be well informed upon the subject they expect to teach. No teacher should be satisfied with anything short of the very best preparation for his work.

The observing of special days by the Sunday School will be very helpful. This will require work; but without work we can hope to accomplish nothing.

W. D. PURVIS.

Report adopted.

REPORT ON BAPTIST ORPHANAGE.

We, your Committee, believe that the plan of work decided upon by the Baptist State Convention in establishing a home for the orphan children of our State was a wise one.

The Baptists do and have always recognized their obligation toward orphans, but up to about twenty years ago little was done toward caring for them in a real and systematic way. Yet in this short time something near a thousand have been cared for in one way or another. Many of them have been placed in good Christian homes, while many others have gone out from the Orphanage educated and trained to fill useful positions in the world.

Our Orphanage is located in the city of Jackson and has a valuation of more than a hundred thousand dollars. In connection with the home we have a farm, a laundry, a blacksmith shop, a dairy, etc., where the children are trained industrially, as well as a splendid school, with an excellent teaching force, where they are trained mentally. Not only are they given those advantages which children with parents enjoy, but the moral and religious life of the children is developed and safeguarded as well. The officers and workers in the Home are good Christian people, who have the interest of the inmates of the Home at heart, and who leave no effort undone in order to promote the interest of the children.

In short our Orphanage is an ideal place in which to live. The environment is good, the society is excellent, the sanitation is scientifically carried out in accordance with the most advanced ideas of the scientific and medical

world. And to a great extent and in large measure these children are largely contributing to their own support. Yet the work is so important, the duty so plain, the obligation which we as Christians owe these unfortunates so evident, that every pastor in our Association should insist on supporting it to the fullest extent with our money, our sympathy, our co-operation and our prayers.

D. F. HOYLE.

Report adopted.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The following amounts have been received and paid to the Treasurer, for which we have his receipt:

State Missions	$ 61.40
Home Missions	15.00
Foreign Missions	12.05
Christian Education	2.60
Ministerial Education	.76
Ministerial Relief	.88
Orphanage	2.28
Hospital	1.14
Minutes	64.01
Total	$160.12

Respectfully submitted,

W. E. HUDSON,
E. W. BARTON,
W. H. BARTON,
Committee.

Report adopted.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE W. M. U. OXFORD ASSOCIATION.

The women of the W. M. U. met Sept. 3, 1918 and assembled in the grove while singing "Take My Life and Let it Be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee."

Mrs. M. B. Knox, Superintendent, presided. Rev. R. B. Gunter having been invited to speak read the twelfth Chapter of Romans, clearly presenting the relation of the members to the church, and emphasized the importance for us to use the talents God has given us, and invoked God's blessings on the work.

He then spoke on "Christian Education," the great need to raise the debt, of which the women assumed $5000; the need to enlarge the institutions and increase attendance so as to meet demands for competent leaders. Let us put on the whole armor of God and "press toward the

mark of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Reports from the following societies were read:

Oxford, Mrs. R. H. McElroy, President	$ 838.92
Water Valley, Mrs. J. T. Westbrook, President	1097.74
Batesville, Mrs. W. W. Rogers, President	198.80
Batesville Y. W. A., Miss Lena Dickens, President	82.15
Clear Creek, Mrs. S. R. McElroy, President	50.61
Courtland, Mrs. J. Toliva, President	72.50
Bethel, Mrs. J. R. Sumner, President	6.90
Big Springs, Mrs. I. R. Markette, President	98.65

Mrs. Knox appointed Mrs. R. H. McElroy, Mrs. J. W. Spooner and Mrs. J. R. Sumner a committee to nominate a superintendent and secretary for the W. M. U. of the Association. Mrs. Knox, in her annual address, very sweetly spoke of consecration and dedicational service.

In the absence of Mrs. Longest, who was to report on Church Building and Loan Fund, Mrs. R. H. McElroy graphically explained the plan of work and urged each society to meet the apportionment assigned.

The report of the Nominating Committee was as follows: Mrs. J. T. Westbrook nominated and elected for Superintendent, and Mrs. J. R. Markette for Secretary.

The amount received for the expense account of the Superintendent was $12.20 and for the District Vice-President, Mrs. Martin Ball, $5.30.

Adjourned to meet with Batesville Church, September, 1919.

Respectfully submitted,
MRS. M. B. KNOX, Superintendent.
MRS. J. R. MARKETTE, Secretary.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Temperance in its original meaning meant moderation in things, but when we speak of temperance in this day, we generally understand it to mean abstaining from alcoholic drinks.

Among the ancient Chinese, Persian and Hebrews you will find laws against excessive drinking. The Buddhists taught total abstinence.

The temperance movement has often had a deep religious significance. God taught in the olden times that strong drink would prevent the judgment of any who were in authority, for Solomon in the 31st chapter of Proverbs repeats the words of King Lemuel in which he says that his mother taught him that wine and strong

drink was not for Kings and Princes, lest they drink and forget the law.

There is no law against the temperate life. A life ruled by the love of God is a temperate life.

Intemperance defies law and laughs at justice. It is the enemy of peace and fosters strife.

Alcohol has caused more sorrow and death than all the pestilence since God sent the plagues to Egypt and all the wars since Joshua stood before Jericho.

Our country is now taking a very strong stand on the side of temperance, and each of us should help in some way to forever put alcohol out of our country and at the same time be temperate in all things.

Respectfully submitted,
MRS. J. R. MARKETTE,
MRS. A. FORD.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

The report on missions read at the last session of this body by Brother J. W. Lee is so comprehensive and sets forth in detail the different departments of the mission work, that your committee does not consider it necessary in this report to go into details, but would respectfully refer you to that report, which may be found in the minutes of the last session of this body.

Baptists have come to understand as never before the magnitude of the task laid upon them to give the Gospel to all the world in the shortest possible time. To do this calls for the best there is in us, in the matter of effective organization, money, men and women. The task is laid upon us by our Lord in the words of the great commission, "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." Will we assume the task?

One of the very apparent evidences that we are viewing this question more seriously than ever before is the fact that the Baptists of the South gave more money last year for the promotion of this work than ever before. However, conditions were more favorable last year for large giving than ever before in the South, on account of unprecedented prosperity enjoyed by the people of the South, brought about by war conditions. Good crops and high prices placed us in favorable financial conditions for doing great things, and for the first time in several years both the Foreign and Home Mission Boards reported no debt. Also our State Convention Board.

The outlook for this year does not seem so inviting, on account of shorter crops and the increasing frequency of calls for money for war purposes in the buying of Liberty Bonds, War Saving Stamps and giving to the Red Cross and Y. M. C. A. All these are just a few weeks or months ahead of us again, which will call for billions of dollars. Shall we be able to take care of all these and meet the large advance over last year, which is a 50 per cent. advance both for Foreign and Home Missions, making the amount to be raised for both two and a half million dollars? And in addition to this amount $40,480.00 has been fixed as the amount to be raised for all purposes in Mississippi for work in our State.

This is a matter for serious thought and earnest work on the part of every church and every member of every church. But in the midst of any anxiety we may have in regard to the final outcome of meeting this enlarged program, we have the consolation of knowing that through the army Red Cross and Y. M. C. A. work we are doing the finest and most far-reaching missionary work that we have ever done. The Home Mission Board and our State Mission Board are doing work among the soldiers in the camps here in addition to what the above organizations are doing.

The better we support every kind of war work in order to bring the earliest possible victory for human freedom, the sooner will the opportunity come for an expansion of mission work among the nations of the earth. At present the war presents many obstacles to our general missionary work, including the three departments of our mission work, namely, Home, Foreign and State Missions.

We have never before had such opportunity for a display of Christian patriotism as at present. "Render unto Caesar things that are Caesar's, and unto God the things that are God's," said our Lord. One may be a good citizen without being a Christian, but no one, in the light of the above Scripture, can be the best type of Christian who is not a true citizen. That means do all you can for your country and all you can for God. We are facing great issues for God and country. Let every one stand in his place, and victory for God and country will soon be written across the skies of the world. Mission is a world program. Hence the greatness and glory of the task.

W. I. HARGIS.

Report adopted.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Missions—J. R. G. Hewlett, H. H. Creekmore.
Sunday Schools—C. C. Longest, J. S. Lock.
Woman's Work—Mrs. R. H. McElroy, Mrs. J. R. Markette.
Publications—J. W. Lee, G. C. McElroy.
Education—J. E. Hargis, Willie Hoyle.
Orphanage—H. L. Johnson, W. E. Hudson.
Aid to Old Preachers—R. W. Draper, Walter McEuen.
Hospitals—B. B. McCulough, J. R. Sumner.
Temperance—D. F. Hoyle, S. H. Shepherd.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NOMINATION.

Time of Meeting—Tuesday after first Sunday in September, 1919.
Place—Batesville.
Messenger to South Baptist Convention—J. W. Lee.
Representative of Foreign Mission Board—W. I. Hargis.
Representative of Home Mission Board—J. R. G. Hewlett.
To Preach the Association Sermon—J. R. G. Hewlett.
To Preach the Association Sermon (Alternate)—J. W. Lee.

J. C. GIVEN,
A. KNIGHT,
G. W. FAIR,
Committee.

REPORT OF TREASURER.

Received of the Finance Committee $160.12—$96.11 for Missions and Benevolence, and $64.01 for Minutes and clerk fees.

Paid to J. B. Lawrence, Corresponding Secretary, $96.11, missions and benevolence. Balance on hand $64.01.

J. W. HIGGINBOTHAM, Treasurer.

"OUR DEAD."

Batesville—Ross McCollough, Miss Mattie Jeffress.
Big Springs—Sister S. A. Thompson, Sister M. J. Edgar, Sister Alma Purdy.
Courtland—J. S. Burnett, Sister J. S. Burnett, Mrs. Lou Woodruff.
Dillard's Chapel—Esther Potts.
Oxford—Dr. R. M. Leavell.
Paris—Mrs. Addie Mortele.
Shady Grove P.—Z. T. Epps.
Concord—Sister Blanch Tatum.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Call for Petitionary Letters.
2. Miscellaneous.
3. Receive Reports of Messengers.
4. Miscellaneous.
5. Appoint a Finance Committee.
6. Miscellaneous.
7. Receive Report of Standing Committee.
8. Miscellaneous.
9. Receive Treasurer's Report.
10. Miscellaneous.
11. Appoint Standing Committee.
12. Miscellaneous.
13. Receive Report of Nominating Committee.
14. Miscellaneous.
15. Call and Correct Roll and Read Minutes.
16. Adjourn.

DIRECTORY.

Officers of the Association.

W. I. Hargis, University Mississippi.....Moderator
R. J. Shuford, Batesville, Miss.....Clerk
J. W. Higginbotham, Taylor, Miss.....Treasurer

ORDAINED MINISTER.

J. W. Lee, Batesville, Miss.
N. F. Metts, Oxford, Miss.
H. S. Johnson, Water Valley, Miss., R. 3.
W. I. Hargis, University of Mississippi.
Ira Metts, Como, Miss.
J. D. Mitchell, Tula, Miss.
J. O. Hill, Sardis, Miss.
S. H. Shepherd, Water Valley, Miss.
Wm. J. Mahoney, Oxford, Miss.
D. F. Hoyle, Paris, Miss.
J. C. Given, Tocowa, Miss.
J. Pilkerton, Water Valley, Miss.
J. M. Hendrix, no post office given.
Eugene Stenson, no post office given.
F. W. Varner, Central Academy.
J. P. Horton, Holly Springs, Miss.
R. G. Hewlett, Water Valley, Miss.
J. R. Sumner, Water Valley, Miss.
A. B. Royal, Taylor, Miss., R. 2.
J. W. Wells, Paris, Miss., Route 1.

EXECUTIVE BOARD.

W. I. Hargis, Chairman; R. J. Shuford, J. R. Hewlett,

H. L. Johnson, B. B. McCullough, D. F. Hoyle, J. R. Sumner. Meet at call of Chairman.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

The Executive Board held a meeting at Water Valley in October last. Only a few members attended. The Board authorized the Chairman to take the matter up with the State Convention Board in regard to supplying some destitution in our bounds and supplementing the salaries of some weak churches. The following churches received help: Pope $50.00, Tocowa $35.00, Crowder A. S. A., Missionary Point $25.00, Fudge School House $100.00. Making a total of $210.00. Spent within the Association being nearly one-fifth of the total amount given by the Association to State Missions.

A meeting was held at Fudge School House by Bro. D. F. Hoyle and W. I. Hargis. We have had no report from the other points. We advise that the pastors of the different points aided by the Convention Board submit a report of their work before the meeting of the Association to the chairman of the Board to be incorporated in the board's report to the Association.

Since the Convention has budgeted its work and since the budget for the coming year will not be made out until the Convention meets in November, we therefore recommend that the apportionment made by the Convention be the apportionment for the churches of this Association.

W. I. HARGIS, Chairman.
B. B. McCULLOUGH, Sec'ty.

LIST OF MESSENGERS AT BIG SPRINGS ASSOCIATION.

Batesville—J. W. Lee, B. B. McCullough, Mrs. M. B. Knox, Miss Lena Dickens, Mrs. Rosa Leigh, Rose Shuford, L. B. Lamb, W. W. Rodgers, Bro. Argo, Bro. J. S. Dees.

Bethel—I. T. Johnsey, J. S. Martin, Pearl Martin, Joe Brister, Sister Shurlet.

Big Springs—J. L. Johnson, E. S. Barton, J. C. Lewis, W. E. Hudson, Daisey Johnson.

Courtland—Represented by letter. No messenger.

Clear Creek—G. C. McEvoy and wife, Mrs. C. H. McElroy, W. E. Crow and wife, Mrs. Bettie Jones, Mrs. Willie Ales.

Dillard's Chapel—Edward Tramel, J. T. Dulin.

Good Hope—J. A. Woodruff, W. H. McEwen, R. H. Hendrix, Miss Eva Woodruff.

Liberty Hill—O. D. McCullar, John Tyler, Julia Tyler,

E. L. Lea, Harvey McCullar, Mrs. Nola McCullar.

New Prospect—H. H. Johnson, Jim Sykes, Dan Welch, Aubrey Knight, J. Hartsfield.

New Liberty—A. B. Brister, A. J. McKee.

Oxford—W. I. Hargis, Mrs. R. H. McEroy.

Pilgrim's Rest—Edd Boyd, Charlie McCown, Victor Rowsey, Maggie Burnet.

Paris—W. J. Moorehead, Mrs. M. L. Willson, Mrs. D. F. Hoyle, W. H. Hoyle, D. F. Hoyle.

Tocowa—T. A. Tubbs, J. C. Given.

Taylor—Mrs. Mollie Hollowell, Mrs. Genie Walker, Mrs. N. B. Jones, Rufus Fisher.

Shady Grove "Y"—J. W. Hoyles, L. R. Moone, Estelle Higginbotham, Clyde Purdy.

Shady Grove "P"—J. J. Perkins, O. H. Moore, P. R. Mathews, May Mathews.

McEver—Represented by letter. No messengers.

Yellow Leaf—A. J. Johnson, J. R. Fudge.

Water Valley—R. G. Hewlett, W. M. Vanderburg, Mrs. J. R. Markette, Mrs. B. F. Tatum, Mrs. Westbrook, Mrs. Wm. Vanderburg, B. F. Tatum.

Concord—J. W. Higginbotham, J. W. Ivy, Lelia Ivy, A. B. Royal, J. L. Horne, A. J. Turpin.

London Hill—J. E. McGonigill, J. W. Wells.

Mt. Gilead—J. L. Godwin, H. Few, S. D. Weaver, G. T. Weaver.

CONSTITUTION.

Article 1. The Association shall be called the Oxford Baptist Association, which shall meet annually. The object of this union shall be to cultivate fraternal intercourse and love between the churches composing this body and unite their efforts in the great work of advancing the Redeemer's Kingdom. In the prosecution of these objects, the dissimination of the Gospel by missionary operations, both home and abroad, shall receive their encouragement, fostering care and support. It shall be the aims of this Association to promote the cause of Sabbath schools, also the interest of general education, and more especially the education of the ministry. All Christian and charitable enterprises shall receive their encouragement among which the support of superannuated and wornout ministers will receive special attention.

Article 2. Each church belonging to this Association shall be entitled to three representatives until the number of members reaches twenty-five, and one delegate for

every twenty-five; provided, in no case shall any church have more than eight delegates.

Article 3. The delegated presented representing churches shall during the session present their letters of correspondence which must state their appointment, together with their number of members in fellowship, the number baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed by letter, excluded and died during the year.

Article 4. Any church of this Association failing to represent herself at one meeting will be expected to state the reason thereof at the next meeting, and any church thus failing at two successive meetings, the Association may consider her dropped from her number, or may appoint a committee to inquire into such failure.

Article 5. Other churches approving our Articles of Faith, and desiring to act and live in fellowship with us, may be admitted into this body by signifying their approval and desire by delegate and letter.

Article 6. This Association shall have a Moderator, Treasurer and Clerk, who shall be chosen by ballot at each annual meeting as soon as the letters from the churches are read and the delegates enrolled. A majority of the votes cast being necessary to an election.

Article 7. Membership in this Association shall be essential to eligibility to any office within the body.

Article 8. This Association shall have no power to adopt rules or institute proceedings that shall infringe upon the independence or rights of churches, but it may, when requested by a church in its letter or correspondence, and not otherwise, give advice in such body, and it may separate from such churches as are known to walk disorderly.

Article 9. This Association may correspond by letter or messenger with other representative bodies of the Baptist denomination.

Article 10. This Association shall at its annual meetings, appoint an Executive Board, composed of as many members as there are churches represented, with five additional members living in the same vicinity, and five of whom shall constitute a quorum. Each church shall have the privilege of nominating its own member of the Board. Said Board shall elect its own officers and shall have power to transact the business of the Association when the Association is not in session and for this purpose meet as often as the Chairman may deem necessary. An annual

report of the proceedings of the Board shall be made to the Association.

Article 11. The Constitution may be altered or amended at any regular meeting by a majority of two-thirds of the members present, provided the proposition to change be made at a previous meeting.

ABSTRACT ARTICLES OF FAITH.

Article 1. We believe in only one true and living God, and that there is a trinity in the God-head: the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and yet there are not three Gods, but one only.

Article 2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament are the Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.

Article 3. We believe in the fall of Adam, and the imputation of his sin to posterity; in the corruption of human nature and the incapacity of man to recover himself by his own free will and ability.

Article 4. We believe in the doctrine of election, and that God chose His people in Christ before the foundation of the world.

Article 5. We believe in the everlasting love of God to His people; that all those who are chosen in Christ will be effectually called, regenerated, sanctified and supported by the grace and power of God, so that they shall persevere in grace, and not one of them be finally lost.

Article 6. We believe that good works are the fruits of faith, and follow after justification; that they only justify us in the sight of men and angels, and are the evidences of our gracious state.

Article 7. We believe that there will be a resurrection of the dead and a general judgment; and that the happiness of the righteous, and punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

8. We believe that water baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of the Lord Jesus Christ, and are to be continued until his second coming; and that true believers are the only subjects; and that baptism is immersion.

Article 9. We believe that no Minister has a right to administer the ordinances of the Gospel, but such as have been regularly baptized, called, and comes under the imposition of the hands of a Presbytery.

RULES OF DECORUM.

Article 1. This Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

Article 2. The Moderator shall be considered judge of order, and shall have discretionary right to call order at any time.

Article 3. Any member not satisfied at his decision may appeal to the Association the same day, but at no other.

Article 4. The Moderator may have the same privilege of speech as any other member of the body; provided he call some other brother to the chair; but shall not be permitted to vote except in case of a tie.

Article 5. Every motion made in order and seconded, after sufficient time for discussion, shall be by the Moderator put to a vote of the Association, a majority of whom shall govern, and the decision shall be publicly announced by the Moderator.

Article 6. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise to his feet and address the Moderator; and the Moderator, when addressed by a member for permission to speak, shall signify the same by naming the person or otherwise.

Article 7. Every member, in addressing the body, must confine his remarks to the subject under discussion, and no member shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he departs from the subject, or uses words of personal reflection.

Article 8. The appellation "Brother" shall be used in our addresses.

Article 9. No member shall be allowed to speak more than twice on the same subject without leave of the Association, nor more than once until all have had an opportunity of speaking.

Article 10. No member shall be at liberty to absent himself during hours of business without leave from the Moderator.

Article 11. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a correct record of the proceedings of the Association and submit the same for correction of the Association at the close of each session, and to preserve a file of the proceedings of the body.

Article 12. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all moneys received for Associational purposes and pay them over by order of the body.

Article 13. In case of a motion to suspend any rules of the Association a vote of two-thirds shall be necessary.

Article 14. The roll of delegates shall be called at the

close of each session, and the absentees without permission shall be designated upon the minutes as such, without leave from the Moderator.

REPORT ON DIGEST OF LETTERS.

We, your Committee on Digest of Church Letters, report the following:

Number of churches sending letters, 23. Eighteen report having Sunday Schools, with officers and teachers, 176, and scholars 1286; total 1462.

Membership of our churches last year 3013. Increase 203, decrease 124. Present membership 3043.

We have given for all the Mission Work $1,158.59, for printing minutes $64.06 and clerk.

We would earnestly recommend that the church clerks itemize in their letters carefully so the Association clerk and the Committee on Digest of Letters can make a full report of work done.

B. B. McCOLLOUGH,
H. L. JOHNSON.

Accepted and adopted.

SUNDAY SCHOOL RECORD

Churches	Supt.	Post Office	No. O. and Teachers	No. of Pupils	Baptisms From S. School	No. Church Members in School	Contributions Expenses, Ect.	Contributions From B.Y.P.U.
Batesville	L B Lamb	Batesville	10	98			100 00	2 50
Big Springs							5 30	
Bethel	J T Johnsey	Water Valley	5	75	2	15	30 00	
Concord	A B Royal	Taylor R 2	5		4	17		
Courtland	S C Bailey	Courtland	8	85			46 30	
Clear Creek	J S Lock	Oxford R 2	8	78		50	10 52	
Dillard's Chaple	Edward Tramel	Oxford R 2	6	80			12 65	
Good Hope	A T Bobo	Courtland R 1	6	23	4	17		
Liberty Hill	O D McCullar	Pope	14	140	12		30 32	
McEver	B Vansickle	Batesville R 3	4	40	1	30		
New Prospect	A Knight		8	77				
Oxford	Dr C Songest	University	36	276	2	159	326 18	
Pilgrims Rest	J C Broome	Shuford	9	52	10		19 81	
Shady Grove "P"	P R Mathews	Central Acdy	7	60	20	50	2 45	
Taylor	J G Hurdle	Taylor	5	40				
Tocowa	Ernest Given	Tocowa	6	40	8		6 00	
Water Valley	B F Tatum	Water Valley	20	300	10	250	416 26	
Yellow Leaf	J H Wolfe	Oxford	13	69		20	1 05	

CHURCH RECORD

CHURCH RECORD

Churches	Increase by Letter	Decrease by Letter	Restored	Gain by Baptism	By Exclusion	Deaths	Present Membership	Pastors	Address	Clerks	Address
Batesville	3	6		2		2	196	J W Lee	Batesville	R W Draper	Batesville
Big Springs	1	2		3		3	100	N F Metts	Oxford	W E Hudson	Water Valley R3
Bethel	6	2		6		1	93	N F Metts	Oxford	J T Johnson	Watervalley
Concord	1		3	10		1	117	N F Metts	Oxford	A J Turpin	Taylor
Courtland						3	34			F W Bailey	Courtland
Clear Creek			1			1	188	W J Hargis	University	B W Jones	Burgess
Dillard's Chapel	7	2	2	22		1	122	Ira Metts	Como R 2	Edward Tramel	Oxford R2
Good Hope				4			40	J W Lee	Batesville	A S Woodruff	Batesville R1
London Hill	1			4		1	59	J D Mitchell	Tula	J E McGonagill	Tula
Liberty Hill	8	9	1	18	1		182	H L Johnson	Water Valley	J T Tyler	Pope
Mt Gilied					1		44	N F Metts	Oxford	H Quinn	Water ValleyR2
McEver	1	1		1			110	T O Hill	Sardis	R L Moore	Sardis
New Liberty	2	1				1	55	S H Shepherd	Water Valley	J T Rutledge	Water ValleyR5
New Prospect				6		1	210	H S Johnson	Water Valley	A Knight	
Oxford	11	16		3	3	1	348	Wm J Mahoney	Oxford	J E Hargis	University
Paris	2	6				1	43	D F Hoyle	Paris	W J Moorehead	Paris
Pilgrim Rest		2		11			121	J C Given	Tocowa	J C Broome	Shuford
Shady Grove "Y"	7			3			56	J Pilkerton	Water Valley	Mrs Polly Purdy	Water Val'R6
Shady Grove "P"		6	1	25		1	88	F W Varner	Central Acdy	J J Perkins	Central Acdy
Taylor	2	1					55	J P Horton	HollySprings	Ira B Moore	Taylor
Tocowa	2		1	11			58	J C Given	Tocowa	C R Tubbs	Batesville
Water Valley	10	46		10		1	606	R G Hewlett	Water Valley	G R Wood	Water Valley
Yellow Leaf	3	1	1				155	J R Sumner	Water Valley	W T Jones	Oxford

Moderator
---Clerk
Treasurer

20.

STATISTICAL REPORT.

Churches	Pastors	Pastor's Salary	Building and Repairs	Incidentals	Sunday S. Expenses	State Missions	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	Ministerial Ed.	Ministerial Relief	Orphanage	Colleges and Schools	Hospital	Other Objects	Total
Batesville	J W Lee	$600 00	$11 00	$77 93	*						$50 00		$50 00	$445 37	1223 30
Bethel	N F Metts	100		30 00	$30 00									2 50	162 50
Big Springs	N F Metts	120		32 75	5 30	$16 00	$16 75	$19 00						161 05	370 85
Concord	N F Metts	125 00		20 00		25 80									170 80
Courtland				27 44								$16 10		77 00	120 54
Clear Creek	W J Hargis	250		5 00	10 52	90 58	51 11	76 67			16 48			39 57	574 88
Dillard's Chapel	Ira Metts	75	9 00	2 40		12 00	7 60	11 40	$1 00					20 07	138 47
Good Hope	J W Lee	89	30	33 25		31 50	4 80	6 00	5 43	60	3 60	4 46	1 80	15 25	192 96
London Hill	J D Mitchell					5 00								1 00	6 00
Liberty Hill	H L Johnson	135 50		3 50	18 98		7 14	28 00			5 30			64 82	263 28
Mt Gilied	N F Metts						18 50								18 50
New Liberty	S H Shepherd					3 00	3 00	3 00							9 00
McEver	I O Hill	100				10 75	17 00	17 66	19 50	1 85	7 00				166 83
New Prospect	S H Johnson	100					6 00							42 00	148 00
Oxford	Wm J Mahoney	1298 95	429 81	517 00		193 85			27 23	13 62	179 03		162 24	1299 47	4061 20
Paris	D F Hoyle	50		3 00	5 00	5 00	5 00	5 00						5 00	78 00
Pilgrim Rest	J C Given			2 75	19 81	10 00	12 24	12 20						2 50	59 50
Shady Grove "Y"	J Pilkerton					7 00									7 00
Shady Grove "P"	F W Varner	50	35 00		2 45	1 00	1 61	1 00							91 06
Taylor	J B Horton	100					2 05	9 00							111 05
Tocowa	J C Given	125			6 00										131 00
Water Valley	R G Hewlett	1050	186 85	640 39	135 26	550 00	All Missions		102 95		69 20		46 05	1312 49	3983 79
Yellow Leaf	J R Sumner	113 50	19	1 00	1 05	4 81			76	38	2 28		1 14	9 44	134 55

(*) See Other Objects

N

T

H

Moderator
____Clerk
Treasurer

20.